

# Yamhill County Reporter

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McMINNVILLE, OREGON.

## CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Culled From the Telegraphic Columns.

The first mining and irrigation congress ever held in the Pacific Northwest met in Baker City, Or., Tuesday. Much interest was manifested and numerous delegates attended.

A Cairo dispatch says: It is announced that the gunboats and Anglo-Egyptian troops attacked Shendy Saturday, destroyed the forts, captured quantities of grain, cattle and ammunition and liberated over 600 slaves. The dervishes lost 160 men. There were no casualties on the Anglo-Egyptian side.

A London dispatch says the situation in the far East is considered gloomy and unsatisfactory, and there is deep discontent here over the results of Lord Salisbury's diplomacy. The belated movement of the British fleet in Chinese waters has caused as much uneasiness in financial circles as satisfaction among other classes. This apprehension would have affected all classes of securities if American stocks had not been remarkably buoyant, and carried everything upward.

The Official Messenger, of St. Petersburg, publishes a circular which has been telegraphed to the representatives of Russia abroad. It is as follows: "By virtue of a convention signed at Peking on March 27, Port Arthur and the port of Talien Wan and territories adjacent thereto have been ceded to Russia in usufruct by China. You are requested to notify the government to which you are accredited, adding that the above mentioned ports and territories will be immediately occupied by Russian troops and the Russian flag will be hoisted by the side of the Chinese flag. You may at the same time inform the foreign minister that the port of Talien Wan will be open to foreign trade and that the largest measure of hospitality will be extended to ships of all friendly nations."

John G. Brady, governor of Alaska, came down on the last steamer from the north. He is on his way to Washington in the interest of Alaskan legislation. Governor Brady said that all saloons in Alaska will be closed, if it is within his power. He does not expect, however, that this will put a stop to the use and sale of liquor in Alaska, it being his opinion that prohibition cannot be successfully carried out there. Governor Brady declared himself in favor of high license. On his visit to Washington he will endeavor to have the general land laws of the United States extended to Alaska. He will suggest that a commission be appointed to draft a code of laws for the territory.

The United States supreme court has decided that a person born in this country of Chinese parents is entitled to citizenship.

Chicago Typographical union has telegraphed the Illinois representatives in congress calling for the intervention of the United States toward ending the inhuman war in Cuba.

Frank B. Clark, of Chicago, has purchased 1,000 feet of river frontage at Linnton, a few miles below Portland, Or., and is negotiating for more. He will construct a large ship-building plant.

A diet kitchen and dispensary, where 2,000 sick will be cared for daily has been started in Havana. The kitchen was built by the central committee, and serves its purpose excellently. The sick and feeble will find the dispensary a great source of comfort and help.

The dispatch of the British fleet from Halifax to Bermuda, following the agitation for an Anglo-American alliance, is considerably commented upon by diplomats in London. The authorities explain that it is merely considered desirable that the British ships should be in the vicinity of Cuba in order to safely guard British commerce and British subjects, in case of war. The idea of Anglo-American co-operation in Cuba is scouted.

The levee on the Wabash river, near Sullivan, Ind., went out with a break of 100 feet, entailing a loss of \$100,000. Twenty thousand acres of land are overflowed, and hundreds of families are rendered homeless and destitute. Citizens are responding for miles around in the effort to remove families and stock. Hundreds of cattle and horses are hemmed in. Such a rush of water was never known in this section of the country before.

Deep interest is felt in Havana in the news received from the United States. La Lucha, in an editorial, says: "The United States' note to Spain demanding that a date be fixed to end hostilities is simply a declaration of war. It was not issued until after the finding of the United States court of inquiry had been received, which finding is without scientific basis, and is open to question even upon the part of the most prejudiced."

The senate committee on appropriations has recommended that Cleveland's forestry order, reserving large areas of land in many states, be rescinded. Should the order be rescinded, the land, about 17,000,000 acres in all, would be restored to the public domain, and the state of Washington would be extensively affected. Senator Wilson has secured an allowance of \$40,000 for the military post at Spokane, Wash., and \$10,000 for the establishment of a fish hatchery at Baker City, Or.

## LAWMAKERS WANT WAR.

Resolutions Declaring War Upon Spain Appear in Both Houses.

Washington, March 31.—Rawlins of Utah, today introduced a joint resolution in the senate recognizing the independence of Cuba and declaring war against Spain.

Senator Foraker has offered in the senate a resolution recognizing Cuba's independence. Foraker spoke of the delays caused by the De Lome incident and the Maine incident, but declared the Cuban question would come up whatever was done with the Maine.

Frye introduced a resolution reciting conditions in Cuba and directing the president in his discretion to take steps to drive the Spanish naval and military forces from the island. The Foraker and Frye resolutions went to the committee on foreign relations. The Rawlins resolution also went to the committee on foreign relations.

Senator Mason (Ill.) followed the introduction of the Cuban resolution in the senate with a vigorous war speech. He described vividly the disaster to the Maine. He said if 90 of the victims had been senators or sons of senators it would not have been 40 days before war had been declared. He could not speak for others, but as for himself he was for war. This declaration brought out a vigorous outburst of applause from the gallery.

Mason declared there could not be peace so long as a European nation owns and butchers its slaves in this hemisphere. He said it was necessary for the Maine court to fix responsibility. The law did that. If it was a torpedo, or a mine, it was a Spanish torpedo, or a Spanish mine. Hence Spain must answer. He would oppose any proposition looking to indemnity, as he would oppose making a diplomatic incident of the catastrophe. He would oppose any kind of autonomy or any plan to assist Spain. His demand was that the Spanish flag be driven from the Western hemisphere. Neither did he believe Cuba should be required to pay an indemnity to Spain.

"Let us awaken," said Mason, in conclusion, "to glorious war as did our fathers; a war that shall insure honor and respect of our flag all over the world."

In the House, Representative Marsh (Ill.), chairman of the house committee on militia, today introduced a joint resolution declaring war between Spain and the United States.

The members of the house who favor immediate and aggressive action are discussing all sorts of methods by which the house can be brought to an expression of opinion. This morning there was even some talk over the ruling of the chair during consideration of the naval appropriation bill, and attaching a resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba as a rider. But all this talk seems to be in air. It has no coherence. The main thing the conservatives have to contend with is the overwhelming protest which is going up against delay.

Spain Proposes an Armistice. Senators and others who talked with the president last evening and today say a proposition for an armistice in Cuba came from Spain, and while it is being considered by the president he insisted that any proposed armistice must be coupled with other conditions which Spain has not shown a disposition to accept and perhaps will not accept. It is stated by one senator that matters will be brought to a head within a very short time.

War Preparations Continue. By direction of General Miles, commanding the army, orders were issued today for the transfer of the Twenty-fifth regiment of infantry to Dry Tortugas. The fact that this regiment is made up of colored troops is regarded as significant in showing the purpose of the war department to concentrate the colored troops in the vicinity of Cuba, inasmuch as it is recognized that the negro is better able to stand the Cuban climate than white men. The regiment is now located at Forts Missoula, Assiniboine and Harrison, Mont. The movement will begin about two weeks hence.

A Statement by Alger. At the close of the cabinet meeting today Secretary Alger gave out the following statement: "So far from there being any difference of opinion among the members of the cabinet, they are all in hearty accord with the president. How could the president have said more? He gave congress the report at once and stated that he had forwarded it to Spain, and is awaiting her reply. He must take one step at a time. It may be said further that there need be no fear that he will not take the next. He has not lost a moment in presenting, not only the Maine incident, but the whole situation to Spain. The country can well afford to await the result of the negotiations, which will be promptly made to whatever result."

Another Ultimatum Sent to Spain. Chicago, March 31.—A Chronicle special from Washington says: The positive statement was made by Secretary Alger tonight that Mr. McKinley this evening sent an ultimatum to Spain, and that fact will be communicated to congress tomorrow. It is impossible to obtain definite information from the White House.

Blanco Blames Americans. Washington, March 31.—The state department gives no official confirmation of the reports that official advisers from Havana state that riots headed by the Weyler element are apprehended. It appears that Blanco sent a communication to Washington in which he says he believes a demonstration may be precipitated at any moment by an element made up by certain Americans of a strong anti-Spanish tendency now at Havana.

## FINDING OF THE BOARD

### Ship Was Blown Up By a Floating Mine.

#### RESPONSIBILITY IS NOT FIXED

Spain Notified of the Findings of the Naval Court—Madrid Refuses to Recall the Torpedo Flotilla and Is Actively Fortifying Porto Rico.

Washington, March 28.—The court of inquiry appointed to investigate the cause of the Maine disaster has reported that the loss of the battle-ship was due to an outside explosion. The state department, by direction of the president, has cabled Minister Woodford, at Madrid, to notify the Spanish government of the conclusion.

The president and his cabinet advisers held two extended sessions today, one at 10:30 A. M. and another at 3:30 P. M., at which the report was considered in detail. Members of the cabinet stated after the meetings that the discussion was of a grave character, and that never since the wrecking of the Maine has the situation seemed so critical.

The Spanish government has cabled officially to Washington that the Spanish naval commission holds the disaster to the Maine to be of internal origin.

The government of Spain, it can be stated positively, is not disposed to turn back the torpedo fleet now proceeding from the Canaries, and would be disinclined to consider a suggestion from this government tending to interfere with the disposition by Spain of her own naval forces.

War preparations on an unprecedented scale are being hurried to completion by the war and navy departments, and the country practically is on a war footing.

The foregoing gives the record of one of the most eventful days the national capital has seen since the close of the civil war. It was a day of profoundly important action and of the deepest anxiety, coupled with naval and military activity, one step following another in rapid succession.

Representative men of the administration, public men in all branches of official and congressional life, no less than the public in general, shared in the tension to which the situation has been wrought. There was no effort among the highest officials, nor, indeed, was it possible from what was clearly apparent in the development of the day, to minimize the situation.

#### Verdict of the Court of Inquiry.

Viewed in detail, the finding of the court of inquiry was the most vital factor. Commander Marix, judge advocate of the court of inquiry, delivered the report to Secretary Long early this morning, and shortly afterward it was carried to the White House and placed in the hands of the president.

At 10:30 the cabinet assembled, half an hour earlier than usual, and began the consideration of the momentous document. Even the rigid rules of secrecy which prevail at cabinet meetings were made doubly strict in this case, and no intimation of the results reached by the court was known until 2 o'clock, when a press bulletin gave the information to the country, as well as to the eagerly waiting officials throughout Washington. These results, briefly stated, are that the loss of the Maine was due to an explosion from the outside, the court being unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion.

The court does not express an opinion as to the character of the explosion, but the testimony goes to show that it was a powerful submarine mine, the exact character of which was not determined, though the belief was expressed that it was a floating submarine mine. There were two explosions, the court finds. The first was from the outside, and that set off one of the smaller magazines.

It was this, expressed in detail, and with the precision of a court deeply conscious of its responsibility, together with the evidence upon which it was based, that occupied the attention of the cabinet throughout its extended sessions of the morning and afternoon. All other subjects have given way to this foremost question. There was no change in the plan of making the report public and transmitting it to congress, accompanied by a brief message from the president.

The afternoon cabinet session lasted until nearly 5:30. The entire situation was discussed at length, but no definite point was reached. The situation is regarded as decidedly critical, and it is feared there will be great difficulty in avoiding trouble.

While interest was thus centered at the White House, the navy and war departments were hurrying forward their work of preparation.

#### The Spanish Flotilla.

The advance of the Spanish torpedo flotilla continued to receive the closest attention of naval officials, and while, so far as could be ascertained, no definite line of action was determined upon, the need of intercepting this fleet was urged by the highest naval authorities.

From the standpoint of the Spanish government, this movement was not a menace, having been decided upon many weeks ago. On the contrary, the

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

No Recommendation Is Made Regarding Action to Be Taken.

Washington, March 29.—The president today sent the following message to congress:

"To the congress of the United States—For some time prior to the visit of the Maine to Havana harbor our consular representatives pointed out the advantages to follow the visits of naval ships to Cuban waters in accustoming people to the presence of our flag as a symbol of good will and of our protection in fulfillment of the mission of protection to American interests, even though no immediate need thereof might exist. Accordingly, on the 25th of January last, after a conference with the Spanish minister, in which a renewal of the visits of our vessels to Spanish water was discussed and accepted, the peninsular authorities at Madrid and Havana were advised of the purpose of this government to resume friendly naval visits at Cuban ports, and that with that end in view the Maine would forthwith call at the port of Havana.

"This announcement was received by the Spanish government with appreciation of the friendly character of the visit of the Maine and with notification of an intention to return the courtesy by sending Spanish ships to the principal ports of the United States.

Meanwhile the Maine entered the port of Havana on the 25th of January, her arrival being marked with no special incident besides the exchange of customary salutes and ceremonial visits.

"The Maine continued in the harbor of Havana during the three weeks following her arrival. No appreciable excitement attended her stay. On the contrary, a feeling of relief and confidence followed the resumption of long-interrupted friendly intercourse. So noticeable was this immediate effect of her visit that the consul-general strongly urged that the presence of our ships in Cuban waters should be kept up by retaining the Maine at Havana, or in the event of her recall, by sending another vessel there to take her place.

"At 40 minutes past 9 o'clock in the evening of the 15th of February, the Maine was destroyed by an explosion, by which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked. In this catastrophe, two officers and 260 members of her crew perished, those who were not killed outright by her explosion being panned between decks by the tangle of wreckage and drowned by the immediate sinking of the hull. Prompt assistance was rendered by neighboring vessels anchored in the harbor, aid being especially given by the boats of the Spanish cruiser Alphonso XII and the Ward line steamer City of Washington, which lay not far distant. The wounded were generously cared for by the authorities of Havana, the hospitals being freely opened to them, while the earliest recovered of the bodies were interred by the municipality in the public cemetery in the city. Tributes of grief and sympathy were offered from all official quarters of the island.

"The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force, and for a brief time intense excitement prevailed, which, in a community less just and selfishly controlled, must have led to hasty acts of blind resentment. This spirit, however, soon gave way to the calmer process of reason and to a resolve to investigate the facts and await material proof before forming judgment as to the responsibility, and if the facts warranted the remedy due. This course necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the executive, for only in the light of a dispassionately ascertained certainty could it determine the nature and measure its full duty in the matter.

"The usual procedure was followed as in cases of casualty or disaster to national vessels of any maritime state. A naval court of inquiry was at once organized, composed of officers well qualified by rank and practical experience to discharge the onerous duties imposed upon them, and accompanied by a strong force of wreckers and divers, the court proceeded to make a thorough investigation on the spot, employing every available means for an impartial and exact determination as to the cause of the explosion. Its operations have been conducted with the utmost deliberation and judgment, and while independently pursued, no source of information was neglected and the fullest opportunity was allowed for simultaneous investigation by the Spanish authorities.

"The findings of the court of inquiry were reached after 23 days' continuous labor, on the 21st of March, and having been approved on the 22d, by the commander-in-chief of the naval force of the North Atlantic station, were transmitted to the executive. It is herewith laid before congress, together with the voluminous testimony taken before the court, which is in brief as follows:

"When the Maine arrived at Havana she was conducted by a regular government pilot to buoy No. 4, to which she was moored in from 5½ to 6 fathoms of water. The state of discipline on board and the condition of her magazines, boilers, coal bunkers and storage compartments are passed in review, with the conclusion that excellent order prevailed and that no indication of any

Atlanta, Ga., March 30.—Firemen responding to an alarm found the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Briley, white, and Mr. Wilkinson, colored, in a store at 75 Humphrey street, which was being rapidly destroyed by fire. The bodies were taken out without being marred by the flames. All were horribly mutilated, the instruments of death, a hatchet and meat knife, being found on the floor. Briley was the proprietor of the store, and it is believed robbery was the motive.

cause for internal explosion existed in any quarter.

"At 8 o'clock in the evening, on February 15, everything had been reported secure and all was quiet. At 40 minutes past 9 o'clock the vessel was suddenly destroyed. There were two distinct explosions with brief intervals between them. The first lifted the forward part of the ship very perceptibly, the second, which was more prolonged, is attributed by the court to the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

"The evidence of the divers establishes that the after part of the ship was practically intact, and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

"Upon the evidence of concurrent external cause, the finding of the court is as follows:

"At frame 17, the outer shell of the ship, from a point 11½ feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel when in normal position, had been forced to about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore, about 34 feet above where it would have been had she sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed 'V' shape, the after wing of which, about 15 feet broad and 32 feet long (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against a continuation of the same plating extending forward.

"At frame 18, the vertical keel is broken in two and bent into a singular angle, formed by the outside plates. This break is about six feet below the surface of the water and about 30 feet above its normal position.

"In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18, and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

"The conclusions of the court are: "The loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to the fault of or negligence on the part of any officer or member of her crew.

"That the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused a partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines, and that no evidence has been obtainable fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons."

"I have directed that the finding of the court of inquiry and the views of this government thereon be communicated to the government of her majesty, the queen regent of Spain, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and friendly relations of the two governments.

"It is the duty of the executive to advise congress of the result and in the meantime deliberate consideration is invoked. WILLIAM MCKINLEY. "Executive Mansion, March 28, 1898."

#### PERISHED ON AN ICE FLOE.

Terrible Fate of Forty-Seven Sailors on a Newfoundland Sealing Steamer.

St. John's, N. F., March 30.—The steamer Greenland has reached this harbor with a gruesome cargo. Twenty-four corpses were on deck and 55 men were moaning in terrible suffering in the hold in the pain of frostbitten limbs and bodies. The dead bodies were on the decks disfigured and almost unrecognizable. The effects of the terrible suffering which they had endured presented one of the most horrible sights human eyes ever beheld.

The frostbitten men number 55. All will recover. The Greenland set sail from St. John's about the first of March on her fateful voyage. She was commanded by Captain George Barbour, and carried a crew of nearly 300 sealhunters. The steamer proceeded northward with the rest of the sealing fleet, but after a couple of hours she diverged on a separate tack, and reached the hunting grounds not long after. All went well until Tuesday last. Seals were quickly encountered, and several good packs were secured.

On Tuesday morning the hunters left the ship about 7 o'clock, as usual, when the lookout reported ice plentiful around them. The men were clad in light clothing, for the slaughtering of seals in exhausting work. Scattered over the ice field, they wandered far from the protection of the ship, and a gale and snowstorm shut them out from view. The ice floe parted and they drifted away from the steamer. Long ere the storm subsided many of the unfortunate fellows had succumbed to the terrible cold and exposure. Those who did not die were terribly frostbitten and suffered excruciating pain.

The long night passed, but morning brought no help, for the storm still raged and the atmosphere was thick with snow driven by the gale. Snow continued nearly all day, and the evening brought no cessation to the high wind. Another night was passed in untold agony. Some of the victims had already given up hope, and in despair laid down and died. Every hour witnessed at least two deaths.

Toward morning the storm subsided and clear weather enabled the survivors to see that the Greenland was not far away, searching for the missing. The steamer bore down on the drifting field of ice, and began the work of picking up the stark bodies of the dead and the lifeless bodies of the living.

#### Summer Garden on Wheels.

Dayton, O., boasts of a "trolley party" car worthy of the name, one which is not simply an ordinary car decorated with a multiplicity of incandescent lamps. This car is provided with chairs, instead of seats, and several tables, all of which are portable and may be placed in any position that is most convenient and comfortable. Another feature of the car is a refrigerator, where refreshments may be stored and served on the car if desired.

## A REVOLT IN THE HOUSE

### Fifty Republican Members Say We Must Intervene.

#### MCKINLEY GIVEN TWO DAYS

By Consolidation With the Democratic Forces They Hope to Carry Out Their Programme.

Washington, March 31.—The revolt in the house against further delay of action in the Cuban issue culminated today in a conference of Republican members whose ideas are in accordance with a positive early course. About 50 representatives attended, representing all sections. Hopkins of Illinois, a member of the ways and means committee, presided. Joy of Missouri, was secretary. The meeting was called to take steps to secure immediate intervention in some form, and the recognition of Cuban independence. It was the first definite step toward this end since the president's message was submitted yesterday.

Up to this afternoon, the sentiment was a half-concealed, but strong feeling against voting money for Cuban relief, unless accompanied by action to stop the war. The meeting today was called with a view to accomplishing the unqualified removal of the Spanish troops from Cuba and prompt armed intervention in the affairs of that island.

Late this afternoon, the word was quietly passed around, but any who are enthusiastically in favor of intervention failed of notification, though the number present would be sufficiently large, by consolidation with the Democratic forces, to carry out a programme.

Representative Hopkins, as chairman, briefly stated the object of the meeting. He indicated his disappointment that the president's message carried no outline of a definite policy toward Spain, and he did not believe further delay should be brooked. He, however, thought the administration might have another day or two in which to act, and failing to do so, that congress should take the matter into its own hands, independently and at once. He favored action looking to Cuban independence, but made no specific suggestions as to the method of its accomplishment.

Towney, of Minnesota, another member of the ways and means committee, said this country should not stop short of seeing the absolute independence of Cuba. He referred to efforts to have the matter brought directly before the house, and said he wished to discuss a resolution for the prompt consideration of the question on the floor.

Beknap, of Illinois, who favored immediate decisive action, took the floor and asked a number of questions tending to bring out the sentiment of the meeting and the policy to be followed. The feeling seemed to be that no action other than the cessation of hostilities on the island and absolute independence would be acceptable.

Marsh, of Illinois, chairman of the committee on militia, made a vigorous speech, in which he denounced Spain as the proven culpable party to the blowing up of the Maine. He would, he said, put an end to Spanish rule in Cuba by immediate intervention, and a formal recognition of Cuban independence. His remarks were warmly applauded.

Lorimer, of Illinois, spoke at considerable length and said he was in favor of securing absolute independence by any means. He deprecated the delay that had already occurred, and protested that the people of this country would not stand the withholding of action.

Other speakers were Pierce, of Missouri; Hicks and Barnum, of Pennsylvania; Mann, of Illinois; Joy, of Missouri; Kirkpatrick and Arnold, of Pennsylvania; and Lawrence, of Massachusetts. Their speeches were largely on the same line.

It was pointed out that, while it was fit that the executive should be given, as he had been, reasonable time in which to advise, it was exclusively the function of congress to declare war, commence hostilities or take action of that character. The remarks made carried the view that a mere recognition of belligerency was not to be considered, for it would not, of itself, bring a cessation of hostilities, and that intervention, armed and immediate, and recognition of independence only would be considered. Some more conservatively put it "to intervene, and, if necessary, to support such intervention by the prompt dispatch of our land and naval forces to Cuba."

#### ZOLA MAY COME HERE.

A Flattering Offer for a Series of Lectures.

New York, March 31.—Emile Zola has agreed to come to the United States to lecture. Edmund Gerson, of this city, has received a cable accepting the terms offered for a lecture, but not setting any definite date for sailing.

Mr. Gerson translated several of Zola's works into English. He wrote some time ago offering a very large sum as an inducement for the lecturing tour. The subjects of the lectures are not yet known, but the case of Captain Dreyfus and the anti-Semitic agitation probably will be leading themes.

Zola has been permitted to take an appeal from his conviction and the time of his visit to America will depend upon the result.

Killed by an Electric Car. Akron, O., March 29.—George and Anthony Aldersmoot, young sons of John Aldersmoot, were killed by an electric street-car last night. They were crossing the street with their arms about each other, and stepped before the car. Their bodies were mangled horribly.